

In the Claims

1. **(currently amended)** A composition comprising
 - (a) a synthetic polymer,
 - (b) a filler, and
 - (c) as dispersing agent ~~a polymer based on a long chain alkyl meth(acrylate)~~an acrylic copolymer containing an alkyl acrylate or methacrylate comprising at least 8 methylene groups in the side chain.
2. **(currently amended)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (c) is a statistical, block or comb copolymer having at least one hydrophilic and at least one hydrophobic segment which is based on ~~an long chain alkyl acrylate~~according to claim 1.
3. **(original)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (a) is a polyolefin.
4. **(original)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a nanoparticulate filler.
5. **(original)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a nanoparticulate filler which is not organically modified.
6. **(original)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a natural or synthetic phyllosilicate or a mixture of such phyllosilicates.
7. **(original)** A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a layered silicate clay.

8. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is a montmorillonite, bentonite, beidelite, mica, hectorite, saponite, nontronite, sauconite, vermiculite, ledikite, magadite, kenyaite, stevensite, volkonskoite, hydrotalcite, illite, kaolinite, wollastonite, attapulgite, talc or silica or a mixture thereof.

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the long chain alkyl meth(acrylate) segment in component (c) contains a C₁₂-C₃₂alkyl meth(acrylate).

12. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (c) is) is poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(maleic anhydride), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(diethylene glycol ethyl ether acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(N-vinylpyrrolidone), poly(octadecyl methacrylate)-co-(N-vinylpyrrolidone), poly(octadecyl methacrylate)-co-(maleic anhydride), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(glycidyl acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(2-dimethylaminoethyl acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(diethylene glycol ethyl ether acrylate), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(methacryloyloxyethyl phosphate), poly(lauryl acrylate)-co-(maleic anhydride), poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(glycidyl methacrylate) or poly(octadecyl acrylate)-co-(methacrylic acid).

13. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b) is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 40 %, based on the weight of component (a).

14. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein component (c) is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 20 %, based on the weight of component (a).

15. (original) A composition according to claim 1, comprising in addition, besides components (a), (b) and (c), further additives.

16. (original) A composition according to claim 15, comprising as further additives phenolic antioxidants, light-stabilizers, processing stabilizers, solvents, pigments, dyes, plasticizers, compatibilizers, toughening agents, thixotropic agents and/or metal deactivators.

17. (original) A composition according to claim 1 in the form of a masterbatch or concentrate comprising component (a) in an amount of from 5 to 90 %, component (b) in an amount of from 5 to 80 %, and component (c) in an amount of from 1 to 50 % by weight.

18. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a composition according to claim 1~~synthetic polymer nanocomposite material~~ which process comprises melt mixing a mixture of components (a), (b) and (c)~~a synthetic polymer, b) a filler, and c) as dispersing agent a polymer-based on a long chain alkyl meth(acrylate).~~

19. (original) A process according to claim 18, wherein the melt mixing occurs between 120 and 290°C.

20. (currently amended) A composition~~synthetic polymer nanocomposite~~ obtained by the [[a]] process according to claim 18.

21. (canceled)

22. (original) An article comprising the composition according to claim 1.